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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 7, lines 22-26 with the amended paragraph as follows:

A method and apparatus for minimizing disk drive access time in, e.g., a disk drive array and suitable for use in the present invention is described by Armstrong in commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application No. ~~08/818,172 (Attorney Docket No. 533/11635)~~, filed on March 14, 1997 and 5,923,891, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.